(c) if not, what are reasons for not according approval so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Sone Canal Modernisation scheme Phase-I covering a Culturable Command Area of 30,000 hectares and estimated to cost Rs. 235.93 crores (1991 price level) was found acceptable by Technical Advisory Committee in November, 1993 subject to the observations that the State Government would arrange clearance of the State Finance Department on the modified estimate and obtain clearance of Ministry of Environment & Forests. The State Government has not furnished the concurrence of the State Finance Department and clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(c) Clearance of the projects depends upon how soon the State Government is able to comply with the observations of the Technical Advisory Committee.

Delay in the Execution of Sardar Sarovar Project

4248. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Sarovar Project running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the financial and other implications of the delay in the execution of the project;

(c) the reasons for delay in execution of the project;

(d) whether Government have under consideration to fix any time limit for completion of the project to avoid cost escalation and dislocation of the people for the minimum period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) The construction work on Sardar Sarovar Project is progressing as per schedule except for the River Bed Power House which is logging behind due to difficulties in obtaining Turbo Generating sets from Japan owing to the suspension of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) assistance. Delay in the execution of the project will result in cost escalation and delay in deriving the benefits from the project. All possible steps are being taken to complete the project as planned by 2000 A.D.

Irrigation with the Help of Solar energy

4249. SHRI DILIP SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrigation on experimental basis is being done with the help of solar energy in the country and particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether France has provided any financial assistance for experiments;

(d) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for the same; and

(e) the nature of pilot projects to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A project was launched by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in August, 1993 on deployment of 1000 Solar photovoltaic water pumping system for agricultural and related uses. 521 solar photovoltaic pumps have so far been installed in 21 states/union territories of which 3 are in Madhya Pradesh. A package